

the west side of the Canton River delta taps a part of the trade of a rich hinterland, from whence come many of the emigrants to North America and the East Indies. The Portuguese colony of Macoa is no longer important as a commercial centre, except as a port of departure for coolie emigrants.

THE COLONY OF HONG KONG.

The crown colony of Hong Kong comprises the island of that name and the dependent territory across the harbour known as Kowloon and the New Territory. The total civil population of the colony was estimated in 1916 at 529,010, consisting of 13,390 non-Chinese and 515,620 Chinese. The harbour is one of the finest and most beautiful in the world and has an area of 10 square miles. The anchorage has a general width of a mile and there are entrances from two sides, both well protected. The bulk of the population live in the city of Victoria, which is spread for about 4 miles along the shore of the island. On the hills above the town there is a foreign residential section known as the Peak. The island is about 11 miles long and from



View of Shameen European Settlement of Canton.

2 to 5 miles broad and consists of a broken ridge of lofty hills. There is little land suitable for tillage and the natural productions of the colony are few and unimportant. The situation of the town is very beautiful. The streets and roads are well made and kept and there are many substantial buildings. The planting of forest trees and the draining of stagnant waters has made a desolate and malarial island into one of the healthiest spots of the world in the same latitude. The colony therefore reflects great credit on the colonial system and administration of Great Britain.

ACQUISITION OF THE COLONY.

The island and harbour of Hong Kong was ceded to Great Britain by the Chinese Government in 1841. Up to that time foreign traders doing business with the merchants' guild of Canton had their headquarters at the Portuguese colony of Macoa.